Appl. No. 09/465,676 Amdt. dated November 23, 2004 Reply to Office Action of August 25, 2004

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 are currently pending.

Please amend claims 4, 7 and 8 and cancel claims 1-3 and 12-15 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

Claims 1-3 (cancelled)

activating and/or deactivating a security device, in particular for access authorization systems and/or driving authorization systems of a motor vehicle, in which system an encoded information item is transmitted over air between a portable transmitter and a receiver, the receiver comparing the received information item with a predefined encoded information item, and outputting a drive signal to the security device when said two information items correspond, wherein the receiver (2) has a capacitive transmitter unit (10, 11) comprising a first capacitor and generates a start signal (16) by means of an alternating electric field at the first capacitor, a receiver unit (13) of the transmitter (1) comprises a second capacitor for reception of the start signal, and transmission of the start signal from the

first capacitor to the second capacitor is accomplished by a capacitive coupling between the first and the second capacitors.

5. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in the capacitive transmitter unit (10, 11) of the receiver (2), the first capacitor (10) is operated with an alternating current generator (11), and the second capacitor (13) receives the signal generated by the transmitter unit (10, 11) of the receiver (2) and passes it on to an evaluation device (4) of the transmitter (1).

6. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 5, wherein, after evaluation of the start signal (16), the evaluation device (4) generates the encoded information item (3) which is transmittable from a transmitter unit (5) of the transmitter (1) to a receiver unit (6) of the receiver (2) by means of inductive coupling or far-field coupling.

7. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 4, wherein the encoded information item (3) is modulated onto a high-frequency carrier frequency which is generated by an alternating current generator (11).

8. (currently amended) The system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first capacitor (10) is formed

between the an outer shell (15) of an access device and an activation device (12) which is arranged on an the outer shell of the access device.

9. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first capacitor (10) is formed between bodywork of the vehicle and a control element which is arranged in the interior of the motor vehicle.

10. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 8, wherein, when the activation device (12) is touched by the user, the signal which is to be detected by the second capacitor (13) is amplified.

11. (previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 9, wherein, when the control element is touched by the user, the signal which is to be detected by the second capacitor (13) is amplified.

Claims 12-15 (cancelled)